

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 26, 2010, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this Application, Applicants submit the following remarks, have amended claims, and have canceled claims. The claims as now presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Claims 1-15, 21-25, 31, 33, 35, 37 and 39 were pending in this Application (with claims 32, 34, 36, and 38 withdrawn from consideration). By this Amendment, claims 31-38 have been canceled. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute at least some of the canceled claims and similar claims in one or more related Applications. Claims 1-2, 6-7, 11, and 21-22 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-15, 21-25, and 39 are now pending in this Application. Claims 1, 6, 11, and 21 are independent claims.

Allowed Claims

Claims 31, 33, 35, and 37 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have rewritten independent claim 1 to include all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 31. Accordingly, claim 1 is now in allowable condition. Since claims 2-5 and 39 depend from and further limit claim 1, claims 2-5 and 39 are also in allowable condition for at least the same reasons. It should be noted that claim 2 has been amended for consistency. No new matter has been added and no new search is required.

Applicants have rewritten independent claim 6 to include all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 33. Accordingly, claim 6 is now in allowable condition. Since claims 7-10 depend from and further limit claim 6, claims 7-10 are also in allowable condition for at least the same reasons. It

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should be noted that claim 7 has been amended for consistency. No new matter has been added and no new search is required.

Applicants have rewritten independent claim 11 to include all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 35. Accordingly, claim 11 is now in allowable condition. Since claims 12-15 depend from and further limit claim 11, claims 12-15 are also in allowable condition for at least the same reasons. No new matter has been added and no new search is required.

Applicants have rewritten independent claim 21 to include all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 37. Accordingly, claim 21 is now in allowable condition. Since claims 22-25 depend from and further limit claim 21, claims 22-25 are also in allowable condition for at least the same reasons. It should be noted that claim 22 has been amended for consistency. No new matter has been added and no new search is required.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, this Application should be in condition for allowance. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Amendment, that the Application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the Applicants' Representative at the number below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this Amendment, including an extension fee, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3661.

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If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-2900, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

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